Government to allocate Natural Gas to BSES Andhra Power at the cost of two other power projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh have recommended to this Ministry that BSES Andhra Power Project, being the least fixed cost operating project, their fall-back allocation of natural gas may be made firm and the firm allocation of Spectrum Extension Phase-II and a part of firm allocation of Gautami Power Project Ltd. may be made fall-back, since these projects have not made desired progress.

**Allocation of gas to companies**

2192. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some companies without any infrastructure have been allotted gas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Setting up of infrastructure is not a prerequisite for allocation of natural gas. Generally prospective consumers, before setting up a new units, apply for allocation of natural gas. Setting up of infrastructure is the subsequent stage. However, existing users may utilize the infrastructure already available for any additional allocation of gas.

**Availability of natural gas in Tripura**

2193. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States in which the presence of natural gas has been discovered;

(b) the number of places in Tripura where exploration of natural gas has been made and in how many cases it was successful;

(c) the quantity of natural gas which is expected to be present under the earth in Tripura;

(d) the quantity of gas to be liftable everyday and how much is being consumed now; and